

7th Grade 2011 Summer Reading List

Requirements:

Students are required to read four books. One is required for English class, one is required for advisory, the third is to be selected from the list below, and the fourth is the student's choice.

Evaluation:

- The English teacher will give a test on *Where the Red Fern Grows* or, in English 7-1, *Black Duck*, the first or second week of school.
- On Tuesday, August 30, the written response on the required reading for advisory is due. (Please see the *Reader Response* instructions at the end of this document before reading any book.)
- The third and fourth books will require typed, signed pledged statements that the student did read the books.

Book List – REQUIRED READING

Black Duck /Lisle - **REQUIRED READING for all English 7-1 (accelerated)** History and mystery collide in a gripping saga of rum-running on the Rhode Island coast during the 1920s.

Where the Red Ferns Grows/ Rawls - **REQUIRED READING for all English 7 students**
The story of an eleven-year-old boy and his loyal 'coon hound' dogs

Seedfolks/Fleischman - **REQUIRED READING FOR ADVISORY**

A filthy, vacant, inner-city lot is transformed into a place of beauty, and the people responsible learn to take pride in their community as they cultivate new relationships with one another.

OPTIONS FOR THIRD and/or FOURTH BOOK:

The Loud Silence of Francine Green/Cushman

In 1949, thirteen-year-old Francine goes to Catholic school in Los Angeles where she becomes best friends with a girl who questions authority and is frequently punished by the nuns, causing Francine to question her own values.

Kit's Wilderness / Almond

This award winner is a mysterious and scary story about Kit who goes to live with his grandfather in the coal town of Stonegate England, and finds the town is haunted by ghosts. Also try the mysterious and mystical book *Skellig*, by the same author.

One Fat Summer/ Lipsyte The experience of a fourteen-year-old boy spending the summer at the family home in Rumson Lake.

Crispin: The Cross of Lead/ Avi – Thrilling mystery set in England during the Middle Ages. Newbery Winner.

Olive's Ocean/ Henkes

A summer visit to her grandmother's cottage by the ocean, twelve-year-old Martha gains perspective on the death of a classmate, on her relationship with her grandmother, and on her plans to be a writer.

The Sword in the Stone/ White

A classic story about the boyhood of King Arthur

Beyond the Burning Tree/ Lasky

Set in seventeenth century New England, twelve-year-old Mary Chase must fight to save her mother from accusations of witchcraft.

Al Capone Does My Shirts/ Choldenko

Moose Flanagan's family moves to Alcatraz in order to afford a special school for his autistic sister.

Al Capone Shines My Shoes/ Choldenko

Moose Flanagan's escapades continue in this sequel to *Al Capone Does My Shirts*.

Mango Shaped Space / Mass

Afraid that she is crazy, thirteen-year-old Mia, who sees a special color with every letter, number, and sound, keeps this a secret until she becomes overwhelmed by school, changing relationships, and the death of her beloved cat, Mango.

Airborn/ Opper

Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creatures reportedly living hundreds of feet above the Earth's surface.

Walk Two Moons/ Creech

A story of thirteen-year-old Salamanca Tree Heddle, who travels cross-country with her grandparents and learns the secrets about her mother's disappearance

Surviving Antarctica: Reality TV 2083/ White

In the year 2083, five fourteen-year-olds who were deprived by chance of the opportunity to continue their educations reenact Scott's 1910-1913 expedition to the South Pole as contestants on a reality television show, secretly aided by a Department of Entertainment employee.

The Hunger Games/ Collins

A futuristic story of sixteen-year-old Katniss, who must fight for life in the annual Hunger Games, a deadly competition on live TV.

The Contender / Lipsyte

A high school dropout becomes a boxer and learns lessons of winning.

Stargirl/ Spinelli

Stargirl finds she is shunned by her refusal to conform to ways at Mica High.

Additional Books:

Interstellar Pig/ Sleator

The Upstairs Room/ Reiss, Johanna

A Wizard of Earthsea/ Le Guin

(For advanced readers)

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn/ Smith

The Education of Little Tree/ Forrest, Carter

All Creatures Great and Small/ Herriot

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A *Reader Response*

Follow directions and complete the five steps in order. **Read this entire page before starting to read the book.**

Write responses by hand. Each response should be at least one paragraph, long enough to answer fully the question. After you complete the RESPONSE, edit your answers, and type them, double-spaced, using Times New Roman font. Head your response with your name, the title of the book, and its author.

FICTION Reading Response Instructions

1. **Before you begin reading:** Think about the title. What might it mean? What does it make you think of? What expectations do you have of a book with that title?
2. **After reading the first chapter:** Predict what you think is going to happen in the rest of the book, and explain why you think so. Correctness does not count here; just make an educated guess, an honest speculation about what might follow. Be sure to respond to both parts of this question.
3. **When you are halfway through the book:** Summarize the problems the characters are facing; suggest possible solutions which might be developed; tell why you find these solutions logical. Answer all three parts of this question.
4. **Just before you read the last chapter:** Have the problems been settled? How? What might the final chapter add to the book? Does it seem that something is still missing?
5. **After you have finished the book:** Make two columns on your paper headed "Liked" and "Disliked." List as many things as you can about the book under each heading. Then, choose one thing you disliked and one thing you liked and explain why.

NON-FICTION Reading Response Instructions

1. Same as 1 above.
2. **After reading the preface and the first chapter:** What was the author's purpose in writing the book? What is the subject category of the book (e.g. history, science, art, autobiography, etc.)? What questions do you hope the book will answer?
3. **When you are halfway through the book:** Summarize the main points of the book so far. What are the main facts, if any, that you already knew? What are the main new facts that you have learned?
4. **Just before you read the last chapter.** Have all of your questions been answered? Which ones have? How? Which ones were not?

5. Same as 5 above.